



EUROPE: Scattered showers fell across much of northern Europe, maintaining adequate moisture supplies for reproductive to filling summer crops. While causing additional winter grain and oilseed harvesting delays, the rainfall was mainly light and interspersed with periods of sunny weather, helping winter crop dry down, especially in northwestern Europe. In England, France, the Benelux countries, much of Germany, and southern Scandinavia, rainfall generally ranged from 4 to 18 mm, with amounts approaching 40 mm in some isolated areas. Farther east, the rainfall was more widespread across Poland, the Czech Republic, Slovakia, and Austria, totaling between 7 and 45 mm, with some higher amounts. In southeastern Europe, mainly dry weather prevailed across the Balkans, Hungary, Romania, Bulgaria, and Greece, further reducing moisture supplies for drought-stressed summer crops. In contrast, moderate to locally heavy showers (18-70 mm, locally near 100 mm) fell across the Po River Valley of northern Italy during the latter half of the week, aiding immature corn, sunflowers, and rice. Elsewhere across south-central and southwestern Europe, dry weather helped late winter grain harvesting, but maintained irrigation requirements for immature summer crops. Early-week hot weather (daily maximum temperatures between 38 and 43 degrees C) increased evaporative losses across southern Spain and Portugal, before cooler weather slid into the region. Temperatures across the remainder of the continent averaged near normal.